(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the decision taken for the future of the employees of the closed centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) In Madhya Pradesh, 36 Anganwadi Workers Training Centres (AWTCs) were operational in the years 2002-03, and 38 AWTCs were operational during 2003-04 and 2004-05.

In Chhattisgarh, 20 AWTCs were operational during 2002-03 and 10 AWTCs were operational during 2003-04 and 2004-05.

(b) and (c) The States have been authorized to close down AWTCs after analyzing the requirements of training of Anganwadi Workers/Anganwadi Helpers. Government of Chhattisgarh has closed down 10 AWTCs in 2003-04, out of 20 sanctioned, after taking into consideration training needs of these functionaries. Government of Madhya Pradesh closed down 1AWTC in 2003-04 due to some irregularities in the training centre.

(d) As per the guidelines issued in the matter, Government of India does not have any liability on account of the staff engaged in the training centres under the ICDS training programmes except of honoraria provided under the scheme. The Government of India does not have any liability in respect of service matters of such staff also.

National Children Board

3300. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Children Board is going to be reconstituted;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the activities undertaken by the Board;

(d) what are the aims and objectives of the Board; and

(e) whether the Board protects rights and privileges of the children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (e) A National Children Board was constituted in 1974 under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister in accordance with the National Policy for Children, 1974. The Board has not been reconstituted since 1989. The objectives of the Board to coordinate the efforts made by different Government and non-government agencies and to plan and review the implementation of various programmes for welfare of children are being achieved through other alternatives. A National Coordination Group has been recently constituted under the chairpersonship of Minister of State for Human Resource Development for coordination of implementation of child rights. A proposal is also under consideration for setting up of a National Commission for Protection of Child Rights which would also see proper enforcement of children's rights and effective implementation of laws relating to children.

Kendriya Vidyalayas in Karnataka

3301. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand from the Karnataka Government to open more Kendriya Vidyalayas in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and when this demand was made;

(c) Government's response in this regard;

(d) the new Kendriya Vidyalayas opened by Government during the last three years; State-wise, District-wise and year-wise;

(e) the details of the request for opening of new Kendriya Vidyalayas pending with Government; and,

(f) Government's response in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Two proposals for opening of Kendriya Vidyalayas, one each at Bagalkot and Chitradurga were received in the years 2001 and 2003 from the Government of Karnataka.

(c) Kendriya Vidyalayas are opened following the established procedure.